

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: TCDC, UN, EAD
SUBJECT: UN CONFERENCE ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION AMONG
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (TCDC) -- PLENARY MEETINGS
OF SEPT 5

1. SUMMARY: AT MORNING PLENARY SEP 5, SPEAKERS
WERE OAS, TANZANIA, LIBYA, AUSTRALIA, SRI LANKA,
PAPUA NEW GUINEA, ANGOLA, DEMOCRATIC YEMEN, AND
SURINAM. THEMES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES CONTINUE
TO INCLUDE OPPOSITION TO ESTABLISHING NEW
INSTITUTIONS OR FUND FOR TCDC AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN TCDC BY THE DEVELOPED
COUNTRIES. AFTERNOON PLENARY INCLUDED CANADA,
UNCTAD, NIGERIA, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UGANDA,
INDONESIA, ROMANIA, KENYA, WORLD INTELLECTUAL
PROPERTY ORGANIZATION (WIPO), THE INTER-AMERICAN
DEVELOPMENT BANK, ESCAP, AND THE INTERNATIONAL
TRADE CENTER. AMONG THESE, UGANDA ALONE SUGGESTED
A GLOBAL FUND FOR TCDC.

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2. THE MORNING MEETING WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY CON-
TINUATION OF STRONG CALLS FOR THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES
TO TAKE A POSITIVE ROLE IN TCDC. TANZANIA SAID THAT
TCDC IS NOT AN ISOLATIONIST MOVEMENT, LIBYA IN A
CALM, APOLITICAL STATEMENT, NOTED THE IMPORTANCE OF
THE ROLE OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN THE TRANSFER OF
TECHNOLOGY AND IN STEMMING THE BRAIN DRAIN. SRI

LANKA ARTICULATED WHAT IS IMPLICIT IN MOST STATEMENTS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, VIZ, NO NEW INSTITUTIONS OR FUND. ANGOLA EXPRESSLY WELCOMED SUGGESTIONS THAT DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MAY HAVE REGARDING THE CONFERENCE'S DRAFT PLAN OF ACTION. DEMOCRATIC YEMEN HOPED THE CONFERENCE WOULD OPEN NEW ROADS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH.

3. ANGOLAN STATEMENT CALLED FOR INCLUSION WITHIN TCDC PLAN OF ACTION OF STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO HELP BRING INDEPENDENCE TO PEOPLES OF NAMIBIA, ZIMBABWE, PALESTINE, AND THE SAHARA.

4. IN THE AFTERNOON SESSION, ALL SPEAKERS EXCEPT UGANDA UNDERScoreD THE NEED TO AVOID A NEW TCDC BUREAUCRACY AND REAFFIRMED THE CENTRALITY OF UNDP AND THE EXISTING UN SYSTEM FOR TCDC COORDINATION. CANADA UNDERScoreD THE IMPORTANCE OF A BASIC HUMAN NEEDS APPROACH TO TCDC. OTHER THEMES INCLUDED THE IMPORTANCE OF POLITICAL WILL AND TCDC AS SUPPLEMENTING BUT NOT REPLACING TRADITIONAL NORTH/SOUTH TECHNICAL COOPERATION.

5. UGANDA, BESIDES SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR A GLOBAL FUND FOR TCDC, ADVOCATED THAT THE LDC'S SHOULD FAVOR EXPERTS FROM THE THIRD WORLD; THAT

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THE UN SHOULD INCREASE RECRUITMENT OF THIRD WORLD PERSONNEL; THAT THE LDC'S SHOULD HAVE THEIR OWN NEWS AGENCY; AND SHOULD WATCH CLOSELY THE ACTIVITIES OF TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS.

ROMANIA SAID IT WAS PREPARED TO HOST AN INTERNATIONAL MEETING ON AGRICULTURE. ROMANIA ALSO WANTED PLAN OF ACTION TO ADVOCATE ULTIMATE REPATRIATION OF EXPERTS WHO GO ABROAD TO PRACTICE TCDC. WIPO, IADB, ESCAP, AND THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER SPENT MOST OF THEIR TIME RECOUNTING THEIR VARIOUS ACTIVITIES.

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